

January 7, 1999

Mr. R. P. Powers
Senior Vice President
Nuclear Generation Group
American Electric Power Company
500 Circle Drive
Buchanan, MI 49107-1395

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF THE DECEMBER 22, 1998, PUBLIC MEETING TO DISCUSS
DONALD C. COOK NUCLEAR PLANT ENGINEERING ASSESSMENT
RESULTS

Dear Mr. Powers:

This letter summarizes the meeting held on December 22, 1998, between staff members of the NRC and the Donald C. Cook Nuclear Plant to discuss issues related to the results of recent engineering assessments. This meeting was held at the Donald C. Cook training facility in Bridgman, Michigan, and was conducted from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. This meeting was open for public observation. Enclosure 1 provides a list of meeting attendees and Enclosure 2 provides the licensee handout for this meeting. Additional information provided by the NRC concerning the restart inspection schedule status is provided in Enclosure 3.

The licensee presented information related to the recently conducted engineering assessments. The licensee discussed and summarized the results of the Engineering Issues Review Group's assessment, the Design Engineering Assessment, the Engineering Skills Survey, and the Engineering Program Reviews. All of the assessments conducted by the licensee resulted in the identification of strengths and weaknesses in the licensee's engineering program. In response to the weaknesses identified by these assessments, the licensee committed to conducting expanded system readiness reviews to evaluate the readiness of safety-related systems. In addition, corrective actions were to be initiated to improve the engineering organization, engineering personnel training and qualification, and engineering programs and processes. The licensee stated that due to the recent completion of the assessments, assimilation of all findings was still in progress and that corrective action plans were in various stages of development. The licensee committed to presenting to the NRC at a future meeting a more detailed plan and timeline for completing the corrective actions, including the expanded system readiness reviews.

The NRC discussed the status of NRC inspection activities at the Donald C. Cook plant as described in Enclosure 3. The NRC noted that based on recent changes in the Donald C. Cook plant commitments, as of December 16, 1998, the majority of the NRC Manual Chapter 0350 case specific inspection items were not ready for inspection. The licensee stated that in approximately 30-45 days, an updated schedule would be provided to the NRC which will reflect the recent engineering initiatives with revised ready for inspection dates for the 0350 Manual Chapter checklist items listed in Enclosure 3.

In accordance with 10 CFR 2.790 of the NRC's "Rules of Practice," a copy of this letter and its enclosures will be placed in NRC's Public Document Room.

Sincerely,

/s/ John A. Grobe

John A. Grobe, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

Docket Nos.: 50-315; 50-316
License Nos.: DPR-58; DPR-74

Enclosures: 1. List of Meeting Attendees 0350 public
 meeting and technical briefing
 2. Indiana Michigan Power Company
 Slide Presentation - 0350 meeting
 3. NRC Inspection Schedule Matrix

cc w/encls: J. Sampson, Site Vice President
 M. Rencheck, Vice President, Nuclear Engineering
 D. Cooper, Plant Manager
 R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
 Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
 Emergency Management Division
 MI Department of State Police
 D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

R. Powers

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Sincerely,

/s/ John A. Grobe

John A. Grobe, Director
Division of Reactor Safety

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R. Whale, Michigan Public Service Commission
Michigan Department of Environmental Quality
Emergency Management Division
MI Department of State Police
D. Lochbaum, Union of Concerned Scientists

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December 22, 1998, Meeting Attendance List

NRC

J. Caldwell
C. Carpenter
J. Grobe
A. Vogel
B. Bartlett
J. Maynen
B. Fuller
M. Farber
M. Holmberg

AEP

R. Powers
D. Cooper
J. Sampson
M. Rencheck
D. Kunsemiller
R. Kerr
F. Pisarsky
D. Powell
J. Durham
E. Ecktein
J. Kingseed
J. Euto
J. O'Neill
P. Gora
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J. Schrage
B. Wallace
T. Quaka
P. Schoepf
G. Weber
M. Rauckharst
T. Wagoner
B. Nichols